

6. COMMENTS AND COORDINATION

This chapter reports on the public meeting held on the project, and the responses to the early coordination effort.

6.1 Activities Leading To Identification of a Preferred Alternative

An informational meeting was held for the I-465 improvements at Ben Davis Junior High School. The meeting was held on March 14, 2002{ XE "Heritage Hills High School" }. At the meeting, and in the weeks following them, people were allowed to submit comments about the project.

Approximately 200 citizens attended the information meeting. The most common comments that were heard from public speakers at the meeting or were received in the form of comment cards, letters, or e-mails were: what will be the impact to my property (9); the 56th Street interchange should be improved (7); noise is a problem (5); I-465 should be widened (4); drainage is a problem (2); and there should be no new signals at interchange ramp ends (2). There were also comments supporting: changing the cloverleaf interchanges; improving signage for the Indianapolis Motor Speedway; improving the Airport Expressway interchange; maintaining bike routes; improving Mann Road; and providing for a new outer beltway.

A series of interactive meetings were held that brought together representatives of various sections of INDOT including Environmental Assessment, Long-Range Planning, Engineering Assessment, Hearings, Project Management, Intelligent Transportation Systems, INDOT's Crawfordsville and Greenfield Districts, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Indianapolis Department of Public Works, the Federal Highway Administration, and project consultants. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss in an open forum the merits of various alternatives and design strategies in light of roadway capacity, safety, related projects, and the built and natural environments.

6.2 Agencies and Institutions Involved in the Early Coordination Process

Scoping{xe "Scoping"} responses were received from the agencies and organizations listed below. Their response letters are included in Appendix A in order by their mailing date.

- Indiana Department of Transportation, Greenfield District, January 2, 2002.
- Indiana Geological Survey, January 3, 2002.
- US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), January 7, 2002.
- Indiana Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Section, January 8, 2002.
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management, January 25, 2002.
- US Army Corps of Engineers, January 29, 2002.
- US Department of Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service, February 13, 2002.

- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, State Historic Preservation Officer, March 20, 2002.
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Unit, March 21, 2002.
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, State Historic Preservation Officer, May 8, 2002.
- US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, June 17, 2002.
- Historic Indianapolis, Inc., October 14, 2002.
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, State Historic Preservation Officer, October 18, 2002.

Federal and State agencies to which early coordination packets were sent that did not respond were:

- US Department of Interior, National Park Service.
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

6.3 Consulting Parties for the Section 106 Process

The following groups and agencies are the consulting parties for the Section 106 process.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertaking on historic properties.

- State Historic Preservation Officer
- Federal Highway Administration
- Indiana Department of Transportation
- Historic Indianapolis, Inc.
- Marion County Historian

Other organizations that were requested to be consulting parties but did not respond or did not agree to be a consulting party included:

- Historic Landmarks Foundation, Inc.
- Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission
- Decatur Twp. Historical Society

- Indiana Historical Bureau
- West Indianapolis Historical Society
- Wayne Township Historical Society
- Indiana Historical Society
- Meridian Street Pres. Comm.
- Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, Central Regional Office
- Marion County Historical Society
- Pike Township Historical Society
- Indiana Junior Historical Society